Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) An asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system on a computer network including a plurality of client computers and a server, the computer network for recouping costs for performance of a job at a first time, comprising:

~~(a)~~ a message queue module on the server, wherein said message queue is formatted to comprise a plurality of records, and wherein each of the records comprise data pertaining to a plurality of ~~print~~ jobs submitted ~~by a user at a~~ from the plurality of client computers;

~~(b)~~ an unbilled ~~print~~ alert module resident on at least one of the plurality of client computers for generating a display on the corresponding client computer and when cost recoupment data is requested by the server from the corresponding client computer at a later second time temporally independent from the first time when the job was performed; and

~~(c)~~ a workstation monitor module resident on the one of the plurality of client computers on which the unbilled alert module is resident and in communication across the network with said message queue module and with said unbilled ~~print~~ alert module, wherein said workstation monitor module comprises means for ~~the capability of~~ transmitting a message to said unbilled

~~print~~ alert module if said message queue module contains a record pertaining to a ~~print~~ job submitted from the corresponding client computer ~~by the user~~.

2. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 1, wherein said unbilled ~~print~~ alert comprises one of an icon and a message that appears on a computer screen associated with the client computer at the later second time.

3. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 1, further comprising a job ~~printer~~ monitor in communication with the client computer, wherein said job ~~printer~~ monitor comprises means for monitoring ~~the capability to monitor~~ the client computer for the submission of a ~~print~~ job from the client computer ~~by the user~~ and to create a record pertaining to the ~~print~~ job submitted from the client computer ~~by the user~~.

4. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 3, further comprising a billing dialogue module, wherein said billing dialogue module comprises means for receiving ~~the capability to receive~~ qualification data from the ~~user at the~~ client computer.

5. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 4, wherein said billing dialogue module comprises a graphical user interface.

6. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 4, further comprising a manager's module, wherein said manager's module comprises means for ~~the capability of~~ setting a maximum unbilled ~~print~~ job value.

7. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 6, wherein said billing dialogue module further comprises means for ~~the capability of~~ forcing ~~the user to enter~~ qualification data to be entered from the corresponding client computer before proceeding, when the number of records pertaining to a ~~print~~ job submitted by the corresponding client computer ~~user~~ exceeds the maximum unbilled ~~print~~ job value.

8. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 7, wherein the client computer includes a screen and where said billing dialogue module further comprises means for ~~the capability of~~ obscuring the screen of the client computer when the number of records pertaining to a ~~print~~ job submitted by the corresponding client computer ~~user~~ exceeds the maximum unbilled ~~print~~ job value.

9. (currently amended) An asynchronous computer network, comprising:

~~(a)~~ a communications medium;

~~(b)~~ at least one client computer connected to said communications medium;

~~(b)~~ at least one server connected to said communications medium;

~~(c)~~ at least one printer connected to said communications medium for performing a print job at a first time;

~~(d)~~ a message queue module communicated with ~~connected to~~ said communications medium, wherein said message queue module stores ~~is capable of storing~~ at least one record, and wherein ~~each of~~ said record~~s~~ comprise~~s~~ data pertaining to the ~~a~~ print job submitted by ~~a user at one of~~ said client computer~~s~~; and

~~(e)~~ a workstation monitor module resident on said client computer, wherein said workstation monitor module communicates ~~transmits~~ a message to said client computer at a later second time which is temporally independent of the first time when the print job is performed, if said message queue module contains a record pertaining to the ~~a~~ print job submitted by the client computer ~~user~~.

10. (currently amended) The asynchronous computer network of claim 9, further comprising an unbilled ~~print~~ alert module communicated with ~~connected to~~ said communications medium.

11. (currently amended) The asynchronous computer network of claim 10, where the client computer has a computer screen and wherein said unbilled ~~print~~ alert module comprises one of an icon and a message that appears on the ~~a~~ computer screen associated with said client computer at the second time.

12. (currently amended) The asynchronous computer network of claim 10, further comprising a printer monitor module resident on one of said client computer and said server, wherein said printer monitor module comprises means for monitoring ~~the capability to monitor~~ said client computer for the submission of a print job through the client computer ~~by the user~~ and to create a record pertaining to the print job submitted through the client computer ~~by the user~~.

13. (currently amended) The asynchronous computer network of claim 12, further comprising a billing dialogue module resident on said client computer, wherein said billing dialogue module comprises means for receiving ~~the capability to receive~~ qualification data from the client computer ~~user~~.

14. (currently amended) The asynchronous computer network of claim 13, where the client computer has a computer screen and wherein said billing dialogue module comprises a graphical user interface appearing on ~~the a~~ computer screen associated with said client computer.

15. (currently amended) The asynchronous computer network of claim 13, further comprising a manager's module resident on one of said client computer and said server, wherein said manager's module comprises means for ~~the capability of~~ setting a maximum unbilled print job value.

16. (currently amended) The asynchronous computer network of claim 15, wherein said billing dialogue module further comprises means for ~~the capability of~~ forcing entry of ~~the user to enter~~ qualification data through the corresponding client computer ~~before proceeding~~ when the number of records pertaining to the ~~a~~ print job submitted by the corresponding client computer ~~user~~ exceeds the maximum unbilled print job value.

17. (currently amended) The asynchronous computer network of claim 16, wherein said billing dialogue module further comprises means for ~~the capability of~~ obscuring a screen associated with the client computer when the number of records pertaining to a print job submitted by the client computer ~~user~~ exceeds the maximum unbilled print job value.

18. (currently amended) An asynchronous method of tracking ~~print~~ jobs on a computer network, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~(a)~~ detecting performance of a ~~print~~ job sent ~~by a user~~ from a client computer at a first time;

~~(b)~~ writing a record comprising data pertaining to the ~~print~~ job to a message queue; and

~~(c)~~ creating an unbilled message alert on the client computer at a later second time if a record is detected in the message queue for the user, the first time and later second time being temporally independent of each other.

19. (currently amended) The asynchronous method of claim 18, wherein said creating an unbilled message alert comprises ~~the step of~~ displaying one of an icon and a message on a computer screen associated with the client computer at the second time.

20. (currently amended) The asynchronous method of claim 18, further comprising ~~the step of~~ initiating a billing dialogue when the number of records in the message queue exceeds an unbilled ~~print~~ job value.

21. (currently amended) The asynchronous method of claim 20, further comprising ~~the step of~~ initiating a billing dialogue in response to a user request.

22. (currently amended) The asynchronous method of claim 20, wherein ~~said step of~~ initiating a billing dialogue further comprises ~~the step of~~ creating a graphical user interface on the client computer.

23. (currently amended) The asynchronous method of claim 20, further comprising ~~the step of~~ clearing the record from the message queue when the user completes the billing dialogue associated with the record.

24. (currently amended) The asynchronous method of claim 23, further comprising ~~the step of~~ setting a maximum unbilled ~~print~~ job value.

25. (currently amended) The asynchronous method of claim 20, wherein said step of initiating a billing dialogue further comprises ~~the step of~~ forcing the user to enter qualification data ~~before proceeding~~ when the number of records pertaining to a ~~print~~ job submitted by the user exceeds the maximum unbilled ~~print~~ job value.

26. (currently amended) The asynchronous method of claim 25, wherein ~~said step of~~ forcing the user to enter qualification data ~~before proceeding~~ when the number of records pertaining to a ~~print~~ job submitted by the user exceeds the maximum unbilled ~~print~~ job value ~~further~~ comprises ~~the step of~~ obscuring the screen of the client computer when the number of records pertaining to a ~~print~~ job submitted by the user exceeds the maximum unbilled ~~print~~ job value.

27. (currently amended) An asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system, comprising:

~~(a)~~ means for detecting a job ~~print~~ activity;

~~(b)~~ means for billing job ~~print~~ activity; and

~~(c)~~ a message queue module that functionally and temporally separates operation said means for detecting ~~print~~ job activity and said means for billing ~~print~~ activity.

28. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 27, wherein said message queue module comprises means for receiving information extracted from the job ~~a print~~ activity.

29. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 28, further comprising means for notifying a user of the presence of extracted information in said message queue module related to the job ~~a print~~ activity associated with the user.

30. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 29, further comprising a billing dialogue module.

31. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 30, further comprising means for activating said billing dialogue module when said message queue module contains information extracted from a number of job ~~print~~ activities which number ~~that~~ exceeds a maximum unbilled ~~print~~ job value.

32. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 31~~,~~ including a client computer wherein said billing dialogue module prevents the user from interactively using a client computer to access the tracking system ~~continuing~~ until billing information is entered.

33. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 31, wherein said means for notifying a user of the presence of extracted information in said message queue related to the job ~~a print~~ activity associated with the user further comprises means for allowing the user to activate ~~activating~~ said billing dialogue module voluntarily.

34. (currently amended) The asynchronous ~~print~~ tracking system of claim 31, further comprising means for clearing information extracted from the job ~~a print~~ activity resident in said message queue module when the user enters billing information pertaining to the job ~~print~~ activity in said billing dialogue module.